

Washington BEACH Program

Recommended Decision Process for Notification

According to WAC 246-260-180 Bathing beaches. **No bathing beach shall be maintained or operated when such water is determined by the health officer to be so polluted or subject to pollution as to constitute a menace to health if used for bathing.** Management decisions for public health and safety at recreational beaches should be based on specific water contact activities, usage, shoreline or sanitary surveys including site history and identification of possible impacts from pollution sources. Water quality monitoring for fecal contamination can be an additional tool used to investigate possible fecal contamination. It is important to communicate risk to the public reflective of actual beach conditions.

